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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 713
By Lewis

A RESOLUTION to designate July 20, 2000 as "Space
Exploration Day".

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to reflect on those most estimable events in our nation's history; and

WHEREAS, July 20 is one such date in our history that deserves recognition; it was on that day in 1969 that the people of the world were brought closer together by the first manned exploration of the moon; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of the great accomplishments of the space program, July 16-24, 2000 will be celebrated as a period of U.S. Space Observance, and July 20, 2000 as "Space Exploration Day"; and

WHEREAS, a primary purpose of the United States Space Program is the peaceful exploration of space for the benefit of all mankind; and

WHEREAS, major space commitments, such as Project Apollo, have provided our nation with scientific and technological leadership in space; and

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WHEREAS, space-related research and development provides countless benefits to all of mankind; a strong progressive manned program can lead to millions of private sector jobs, reduce inflation, strengthen the nation's long-term economy, reduce poverty through increased economic and educational opportunities, assist in the reduction of individual taxes, expand the national tax base, help eliminate the federal deficit, and reduce the national debt; and

WHEREAS, the future of manned space exploration will open a new frontier of opportunity for Americans and for the global community; and

WHEREAS, space tourism, manufacturing, and mining will benefit the future course of humanity; the NASA breakthrough Physics Propulsion Program will vastly reduce the cost of space transportation, and may even open the way to star travel at acceptable energies and speeds; and

WHEREAS, advancement in space exploration can uplift the human spirit with limitless opportunities for growth and development of mankind; and

WHEREAS, just as the space achievements of this generation would astound the founders of our nation, mankind may take for granted the heavens, of such wonders we cannot imagine; and

WHEREAS, the elected officials of this great state wish to commemorate the countless contributions of the space program to Tennessee, the nation, and the world; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby designate July 20, 2000 as "Space Exploration Day" in Tennessee and join in celebrating July 16-24, 2000 as a period of "U.S. Space Observance".

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.